

**APPENDIX A-13**

**Sewerage Facilities and Septic Tanks in Urbanizing Areas in the  
Central Coast Region**

CENTRAL COASTAL REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

RESOLUTION NO. 69 - 1

ADOPTING POLICY STATEMENT REGARDING SEWERAGE FACILITIES AND  
SEPTIC TANKS IN URBANIZING AREAS IN THE CENTRAL COASTAL REGION.

WHEREAS, Section 13052(e) of the California Water Code states that each regional board, with respect to its region, shall:

"Formulate and adopt long-range plans and policies with respect to water pollution control and water quality control within the region to conform with the policies set forth in Chapter 1 (commencing at Section 13000) and any water quality control policy adopted at any time by the state board."; and,

WHEREAS, Section 13052(a) of the California Water Code states that each regional board, with respect to its region, shall:

"Obtain coordinated action in water quality control and in the abatement, prevention and control of water pollution and nuisance by means of formal or informal meetings of the persons involved."; and,

WHEREAS, Section 13052(d) of the California Water Code states that each regional board, with respect to its region, shall:

"Request enforcement of laws concerning water pollution or nuisance by appropriate federal, state and local agencies."; and,

WHEREAS, Section 13052(c) of the California Water Code states that each regional board, with respect to its region, shall:

"Require any state or local agency to inspect and report on any technical factors involved in water pollution or nuisance."; and,

WHEREAS, within the context of this policy the term "urbanizing areas" refers to areas subject to rapid and/or concentrated development and subdivision areas of less concentrated development with individual parcels of land less than 2.5 acres; and,

WHEREAS, this board has evidence that many past, present and potential water pollution problems in the region result from the practice of serving new residential subdivisions and other urbanizing areas with individual septic tanks and leaching systems or with small, community sewerage systems that fail to provide satisfactory service; and,

WHEREAS, this board has observed that water pollution problems do not develop where local government recognizes the potential for such problems well in advance and takes steps to prevent them; and,

WHEREAS, after adequate notice, public hearings were held to receive testimony from all persons present and desiring to be heard concerning this matter; and,

WHEREAS, the board has reviewed the testimony received at the public hearings and the written statements from interested persons; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that it is the policy of this Board that city and county governments are requested to:

1. Prohibit the use of septic tanks and leaching systems for sewage disposal:
  - a. For any subdivision of land which comes under the provisions of the Subdivision Map Act of California unless the subdivider clearly demonstrates to the satisfaction of the governing body having jurisdiction that the use of septic tanks will be in the best public interest and that the beneficial uses of water of the state will not be adversely affected;
  - b. For any area where minimum lot sizes, dwelling densities, construction standards, percolation rates and minimum physiographic conditions have not been established by county ordinance; and
  - c. For any other area where the continued use of septic tanks constitutes a public health hazard, or existing or threatened condition of water pollution or nuisance.
2. Prohibit the development of any subdivision, trailer park, or similar development that will use its own community system for the disposal of sewage unless:
  - a. The subdivision, trailer park, or similar development is within or has access to a pre-existing governmental entity (city or district) that has authority to and has stated its intent to assume responsibility for the planning, construction, operation, and maintenance of the sewerage system or has authority to and has stated its intent to review plans and construction and assume operation and maintenance of the sewerage system upon certification by the appropriate health officer that the system is failing; and,

- b. The governmental entity (county, city or district) has developed a master plan for sewerage, pursuant to Section 65300, et seq. of the California Government Code, which includes the subdivision, trailer park, or similar development; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that this Board intends:

1. To continue to observe the progress made by local government in the Central Coastal Region toward prevention of water pollution and nuisance problems which may result from individual sewage disposal systems and from small community sewerage systems; and,
2. To seek enforcement action if and when it appears to the Board that such action is needed to prevent water pollution, nuisance or contamination because of inadequate control of development in urbanizing areas by local government; and be it further

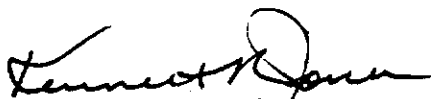
RESOLVED, that this Board instructs its Executive Officer to transmit this resolution to all interested parties, including but not limited to the governing body of each city and county and to appropriate districts in the Central Coastal Region, and urges each body to give its full support to the policy enunciated above; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Board requests each agency which has power to regulate the types of development that are covered by this resolution to make copies of this resolution available to all persons proposing such developments at the earliest practicable time so that each will be advised of the policy of the Regional Board in this matter.

Adopted by the Central Coastal Regional Water Quality Control Board on February 14, 1969.

  
BERTRAM H. MUDGETT, Chairman

ATTEST:

  
KENNETH R. JONES, Executive Officer